

Message Text

SECRET

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62

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

66644

DRAFTED BY D/ PW: FASIEVERTS: GM

3/14/73 EXT. 29454

APPROVED BY D/ PW: FASIEVERTS

EA/ ANZ: MR. MARTIN (INFO)

EA: MR. SULLIVAN

DOD/ ISA: DR. SHIELDS

S/ S- O: K. KURZE

----- 056616

O R 150151 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

CINCPAC

COMUSMACV

13 AF CLARK AB

RTAFB NKP THAILAND

S E C R E T STATE 047701

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, VN

SUBJECT: HOMECOMING - REPORT OF AUSTRALIAN PRISONERS
IN NVN

BANGKOK AND NKP FOR JCRC

1. DEPTOFF (D/ PW) INFORMED AUSTRALIAN FIRST SECRETARY
(WILLIAMS) MARCH 14 OF REPORT FROM RETURNED US PRISONER
THAT TWO AUSTRALIANS IDENTIFIED AS SQDRN LEADERS JOHN M.
MCBRIDE, 188527, AND DOUGLAS BRUCE HUME (OR HOLMES),
188555, ARE HELD IN NVN.

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2. ACCORDING TO INFO, THE TWO WERE IN SEATO LIGHT PLANE ON FLIGHT FROM TON SON NHUT TO BANGKOK, WHICH CRASHED IN CAMBODIA AS RESULT OF SMALL ARMS FIRE. US PILOT IDENTIFIED AS " CAPT. LEWIS" SAID TO HAVE DIED FOLLOWING CRASH AS RESULT OF ENEMY FIRE. ONE OF AUSTRALIANS DESCRIBED AS TALL, PREMATURELY GREY, AND BALDING. INCIDENT SAID TO HAVE OCCURRED IN AUGUST, 1970.

3. EMBOFF SAID HE WOULD ADVISE CANBERRA. WE TOLD HIM AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR IN MANILA HAD BEEN INFORMED AND PRESUMABLY WOULD BE DOING LIKEWISE.

4. DEPTOFF SAID USG HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO EVALUATE CREDIBILITY OF REPORT BUT WAS PASSING IT ON WITH THOUGHT THAT GOA MIGHT BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY THE TWO REPORTED DETAINEES. IF REPORT IS ACCURATE IT WOULD OF COURSE BE CAUSE FOR SERIOUS CONCERN AND ACTION TO OBTAIN MEN' S RELEASE. ROGERS

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: MOPS, VN
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CINCPAC
MULTIPLE
SAIGON
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